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7-16-1999

Jane E. Henney, M.D., Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 14-71
Rockville, MD 20852

6316 '99 JUL 22 A9:45

> Re: Docket No.98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and
> Handling of Food"

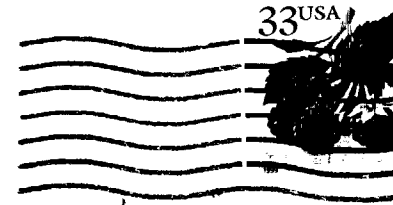
Dear Dr. Jane E. Henney,

> I am extremely concerned about the prospect of weakening or eliminating
> the labeling requirements for irradiated
> food. Any foods, or any foods containing ingredients that have been
> treated by irradiation, should be clearly
> labeled with a written statement on the principal display panel
> indicating such treatment. The statement should be easy to read and
> placed in close proximity to the name of the food and accompanied by the
> radura, the inter-
> national symbol of irradiated food. If the food is not packaged, this
> information should be clearly displayed on a
> poster in plain view and adjacent to where the product is displayed for
> sale.
> Like other labels required by federal law, irradiation labels must be
> truthful and not misleading. Proposals to use
> euphemistic phrases like "cold pasteurization" are inappropriate
> because pasteurization is an entirely different process involving rapid
> heating and cooling. The terms "treated with radiation" or "treated by
> irradiation" should be retained because they accurately portray the
> irradiation process. The radura symbol, without written disclosure, is
> not adequate.
> Consumers have a right-to-know how their food has been processed. Please
> ensure that labeling requirements are strengthened, not weakened.
> Thank you for your kind attention.
> Sincerely,

Ana Vollmann

*P.S. I would have handwritten this but as
you may observe, it is not to replace,
thank you Ana*

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